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A
RELATION
OF THE
Late Siedge and taking of the City
OF
BABYLON
BY THE
TURKE.

As it was written from thence by
Zarain Aga, one of his Captaines, to *Cayma-*
ran, his Brother, Vice-Roy in *Constantinople*.

Setting forth all the principall passages of this
Siedge, with one Unparreled, Cruell, Furious and
Bloody assault, made by the Turks, wherein were slaine in
12 houres 120000 of them, and above 20000 Persians.

Translated out of the Turkish, into the Italian Lan-
guage, by the Druggerman to the State of *RAGOZZA*.

And Englished by *W. H.*

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THE INTRODUCTION,

Describing the City of *Babylon* from its Originall, and how often it hath been translated from one Monarch to another ; it being now come again into the hands of the Turke.

IT is not Fortune to which the Roman Orator, as he (a) learnt from the Philosophers, gives the attributes of Blindnesse, Madnesse, and Brutishnesse ; because it seeth not whither it applyeth it selfe, is unconstant and variable, and is encountered by many inconveniences, no humane policy by which the (b) Statists of the World would prescribe infallible rules for preservation of settled Kinndomes and Republiques to Eternity ; but the Divine providence, which governeth the estate of things, which (administring, and ruling all things not simply alone, but by disposing of the meanes, and secondary causes) makes that necessary by consequence, which because not forseen seemeth contingent and fortuitous to the Moale-eyes of blind mortality.

Old *Babylon* the Metropolis of *Assyria*, for strength might compare with any City in the World ; Its first foundresse *Semiramis*, a Woman of more than masculine wit and courage, (whose

(a) 2 Ad
Heren. For-
tunam Infa-
nam esse &
cecum &
Brutam per-
hibent Philo-
sophi: Cecum
quia nihil
cernit quo
sese applicet;
Infamam quia
incerta &
instabilis est;
Brutam quia
multis in-
commodis
conflictatur.
(b) Aristot.
5^o Polit. ca. 8.

*ex Calvis
Antiq. Dio-
nem. l. 8. c. 12*

Garbe in wrapping her head in Lawne, the Per-
sians at this day imitate) first surrounded it with
wals of 32 (c) foot thick and 50 Cubits high be-
twixt the Turrets; the Towers themselves be-
ing raised 10 Cubits higher, and so left it as a
peece, (in the opinion of that age) impre-
gnable.

*d. Fabstonia
emol. f. 2
e. omnium
in biura orbis
cogniti Iovi-
us, lib. 33.
(c) Calvis
c. 12. 1. 2.
(f) A Sta-
dium is 135
paces.*

If any City might boast of its bignesse, this
might claime that glory, It being the (d) biggest
of the knowne World; and the wals (e) 355
(f) Stadia in compasse. Or according to *Plinius*
his description, (g) the breadth of the wals be-
being 50 foot, the height 200, each foot contain-
ing more by 3 fingers breadth than our ordina-
ry measure, and in circuit 60000 paces.

*(g) l. 8. c. 26
(h) Pelit. 2.*

To omit that conjecture of *Aristotle*, who (h)
thought it might have an equall dimension with
all Peloponess, because when it was first taken,
the farthest part of the City know not till three
dayes after what had happenep: If any City
might brag of its Elegancy and commodious si-
tuation, it was this; *Euphrates* bringing his chan-
nell of a stadium broad through the midst of it,

*(i) l. 1. c. 1.
(j) l. 1. c. 1.
(k) l. 1. c. 1.*

(i) and that so arched over, and adorned with
penfill Gardens, that a far off, it appeared like a
Wood upon the top of a Mountaine: and the
land about being so fruitfull, that it commonly
produceth 200 for one, and somtimes 300: (k) If
any City might glory in the happy and pregnant
wits of its inhabitants, it was this, where Astro-
nomy was first taught, and the Art of working in
needle works of divers colours was first inven-

ted.

(3)

ted. If ever City might glory in the puissance of its Kings, this was the City, wherein the Scepter was first sway'd by *Phulbelochus*, *Anno mundi* 3146, under whom flourished the Persian Historiographer *Metasthenes*, who reigned 48 yeeres. Next by *Phylazzer* or *Tegbath Phylazzer*, *Anno mundi* 3194, and reigned three and twenty yeeres. After him by *Salmanazar*, *Anno mundi* 3217 who reigned tenne yeeres, and subdued all *Phœnicie*, *Tyrus* only excepted, and carried away the King of Israel, and the 10 Tribes into *Media*. Next by *Sennacherib*, *Anno mundi* 3227, who reviling the good pious *Hezekiah* by a rayling *Rabsheked* had a hook put into his Nostrils, forced home again, and was slaine Adoring his Idols in the Temple by his own sonnes, when he had reigned 7 yeeres. After him by *Esarhadon*, called by *Josephus Asarocoldus*, *Anno mundi* 3233, who raigned 11 yeeres. And lastly by *Berodach*, surnamed *Ballad*, *Anno mundi* 3242, who at the revolution of 12 yeeres, transferred the Kingdome to the *Assyrians*, and afterwards reigned 18 years, yet the strength of its wals, numerous and ingenious inhabitants, and the puissance of its Kings, could not conserve it in its former splendour, it being forced to change the ancient government, and receive new Lords and Laws, first by *Cyrus* the Persian, and after by *Alexander* the Great, who was poysoned there by a Quacksalving Mountebank, *Thessalus* by name (!) who had so (!) last 1st cunningly tempered his potion, that no vessell of earth, or glasse, brasse or iron, nor any thing else
but

but an horses hoofe could containe it, unlesse it had beene mingled with cold water, which for a time abated the violence, though soon after contracting his power, it raged more violently, in which vehicle it was exhibited unto him. Kings have their Fates, and the great Macedon, which would be thought Immortall as God, thus by the hand of a base Veneficus knew himself to be a man, & dyed like one of the ordinary Princes, but his limited time was come. One of the Persian Wifemen called *Pythagoras*, (m) warned him to leave *Babylon* and ferry over the River unto *Bysit*, and his counsell he had followed had not *Anaxarchus* the Philosopher met with him, and told him that his Predictions were false, and also uncertaine; adding withall, *Si fatis constant ignota mortalibus: Si nature debeantur Immutabilia*. And so convincing his understanding, betrayed him to the treacherous *Assasinate*. The utter ruine of this great City, attended the Fate of this great King, for soone after his death, it was in part demolished by the fury of the Persians, in part suffered to perish, by the negligence of the Grecians, and almost exhausted and unpeopled by (n) *Seleucus*, who to that intent built *Seleucia*, within 3000 Stadia, that is 44 English miles thereof; and the Parthians, who to the same purpose built *Ctesiphon* in *Chalonitis* (*Juxta tertium ab ea Lapidem*.) But then failing of their designe, *Vologesus* the King (*nuper* saith *Plini* (o) since the Incarnation of our Saviour, it is certain) built another City neer it, called *Vologese-Certa*, and thereby so impoverished

(m) Plutar.
in vita A-
lexand. i.

(n) Cel. L. ci-
tat.

(o) L. 6. c. 16.

~~cunningly~~ tempered his potion, that no vessell of earth, or glasse, brasse or iron, nor any thing else impoverished it, that it might have been said of *Babylon* truly (which a Greek Comick Poet spake of *Megalopolis* in *Arcadia*, scoffingly, *Ερημία* *μεγαλ' ὅτιν' ἡμεγάλη πάλαι*. The great City is become a forsaken wilderness.) Thus the glory of the Easterne buildings became as an heape, till the yeare of Christ 578 when it was rebuilt by the *Caliph Bugiafer*, with the expence of 200000 talents of Gold, and called *Bagdat*; yet that splendor was soon Ecclipsed again, by *Alacho*, brother to *Chita* the Tartarian King Anno 640, who expelled the *Assian* family *Caliph Mustiadzen* the 54 of that house then ruling; and the family of *Chita* was again not long after, beaten out by *Tangrolipix* of the *Zel. Zuccahian* line, whence it descended to the house of *Ottoman*, Anno 1031 under whom it remained untill the yeare 1625, when it was subjected to the *Perjians* by their puissant Prince *Abas*, who after 14 yeares, were forced from it by the now Turkish *Sultano*, whose proesse for the recovery thereof, by the great paines and charge of our English Relator, is derived to us out of the *Archiva* of *Ragusa*, formerly called *Epidaurus*, a City and Republique in *Dalmatia*, but tributary to the grand *Signor*, in the letters following.

THE



The relation of the late Siedge and taking of the
City of Babylon, by the Turke.



He desire you have to know of the
true successe & proceedings of the
whole Army, incited me to write
3 former letters. In my first I rela-
ted to you what occurents hapned
in our voyage, particularly of that

(1) This
Persian cō-
mander
would u-
surpe both
the Name
and Office
of our Sa-
viour, and
is therefore
justly sty-
led the
Turke base
& wicked.

(2) Here is
base flatter-
ry and de-
testable
blasphemy,
the *Turks*
parasits,
thus entitle
him and he
assumes it.
(3) *Disce*
justitiam
moniti nec
terminis le-
sum.

most (1) false and wicked man who intitling
himselfe Jesus the great Prophet, was (not very
far from *Babylon*) so audacious and hardy as to
joyne battle with the invincible Army of the
Arbiter of the whole Universe (2) the most
mighty Emperour Sultan *Amurath*, the right
hand of the Omnipotent God, and how the said
bloody fights ended by the death of the said false
Prophet and all his Army. (3)

In my second, I wrote you how that appoa-
ching neare the wals of great *Babylon*, we were
assaulted by the Army of *Han* Lord of *Persia*: &
how dreadfull the Battaile was: also how a great
part of our Army then perished; and how the as-
pect of the awefull countenance of our most Ma-
jesticall Emperour, at least forced the Enemy to
retire, one part of his Army flying into places
far off, and the other part seeking refuge within
the wals of *Babylon*.

In my third, I signified unto you. that the *Baby-*
lonians hearts fayled them at our approach; when
they

they beheld the vaste and great Channell and Trenches made by our Army, to divert the river Euphrates another way; the great paines of our supream Lord, the admirable diligence of *Hussein* Bassaw; the incomparable vertue of *Mahomet* Bassaw; the couragious vallour of *Mustapha* Bassaw, and the generall and cordiall fidelity of the whole Imperiall Army, all which presaged the following Victory; as also of the foure Batteries planted, in each of which were 50 pieces of Ordnances, in all 200 pieces, wherewith we continually battered the great *Babylon*, without giving the enemies any leave to take the least respite: As also of the great Assault and Trenches made against the strong Castle of Venlo, by the Noble favorite of the Emperor *Silixtar* Bassaw; there I also wrote unto you how we then numbered our Soldiers, and how many we found wanting, namely: the number of such as perished in the fore named Battels, in the raising of the 4 Bastions, and in the assault amounted to 73589 light horse, with their Riders, amongst whom the old *Dante* Bassaw sanctified by our holy faith, who appeared always like thunder and lighting to the enemies terror: (4) with many other Lords and great Captaines of the Countries of *Greece*, *Albania* and *Morea*, which we hope that, (like so many Cherubins) the chiefest of the Angels have conducted thir soules to Heaven, into the bozome of *Mahomet* our Prophet, whom the great God hath so washed with the water of Martyrdome, suffred by them for their faiths sake.

There were lost also in the same actions, 35000 footmen, in part *Janissaries*, and in part a new sort of souldiers named *Simeani*; among w^h was *Beleaver Bostanga* Bassaw, who that very same day on which he was preferred to the dignity of Bassaw, before he could enjoy terrestriall Rule, conducted to Heaven these his Souldiers, being drawne to enjoy those Celestiall waters, the which God hath granted to the faithful, through the intercession of our great Prophet. (5) After which, I also advised you how that the great Ingeneere of Afrique, had caused more than 1000 Barques to be built: And how that 25 Canons of unmeasurable greatnesse, were laid upon skins blown full of wind like bladders, and so were supported, and swame on the River *Euphrates*, but to what end no one knew.

(5) There is no cheat like that which clatts it selfe in the habit of Religion. This the Jugling Mahomet promised *Azora* 2, and is at this day by them fittely beleevd

I further advised you of the great preparations and toyle in making the great frame for the Bridge over the River, and how that the said River being diverted another way, we presented the aforesaid Canons before the strong walls of *Babylon*, and then laid the Bridge, at one instant fortifying it with strong barres of iron, that upheld it in all those places, which are held necessary, and how our designes tooke effect, and a great part of the vvall of *Babylon*, by uncessant Battery, vvas broke dovne, and how the said Artillery, together vvith an infinite number of our men, the diverted River by force returning, suddenly into its ancient Channell, vv ere carryed avay thereby. And not onely so, but that the

the river broke into the City of *Babylon*, through the breaches in the vvall, vvhich our Emperour perceiving, commanded the aforeſaid Barques, full of Souldiers, to rovv into the City, as you have had in my former large information.

The Sultan
is more am-
bitious to
enlarge his
Dominions
than to pre-
ſerve his
men.

After this there came a commandement from our Omnipotent Emperour, (the Bridge being finiſhed) that we ſhould fill up the trenches by us made: and that about the diſtance of a mile, from *Babylon*, we ſhould begin a great trench of the length of a mile, in a direct line, but about 5 miles in its wandring turnings and windings, and ſo large that 30 men in field might commodiouſly march forward therein. This done, they whole Army was divided into foure ſeverall Squadrons, one of them being appointed to each of the aboveſaid 4 baſtions. The leading of the firſt Squadron was given to the great *Vizier*, by the Emperour called *Alla*, which in Turkiſh is as much as to ſay, God and Father. The ſecond Commander was the moſt valiant *Muſtapha Baſſa*. The Conductor of the third, was the moſt vertuous *Mahomet*. The fourth chiefe leader was (the abſtract and quinteſſence of all honour and vertue) his ſacred Maſteſty, the great Emperour himſelfe, who was contented ſo to doe, contrary to the advice of his chiefe Counſellors, and of all the three Champions, according to the directions of the Ingeneere of *Affrique*, into whoſe hands the invincible Maſteſty of our Emperour had given all his power and authority, his Maſteſty himſelfe, in this deſigne, contented to be

commanded by his owne slave.

(7) Yet he is a *Mahometan*, and what ever pretended it is not religion but desire of Rule that makes the quarrell betwixt the *Turke* and him.

Over the fifth part of the Army, the great Solicitor had Command, and he remained to guard those borders, whither it was reported the (7) unbelieving Persian was retired with the residue of his forces.

After this manner, having put themselves in order of battaile, by the Commandement of the great Legislator, order was given that in every severall Regiment, the most eloquent man amongst them chosen, should by a Marshall speech animate the Souldiers to fight resolutely using these or the like words.

Most valiant Champions, most happy slaves of the Emperours Majesty, this is the day which you so long desired, this is the end for which you have undergone so many miseries; this is the day that our Empire shall be established to the faith, full of God, and fatall to such as beleve not the law of *Mahomet*: at which words their courages were doubled, and every one unanimously, like so many enraged Lions, were disposed and desirous in that very instant to dye, or else to recover the Sepulture of our Prophet, I M A N A S I N, which is in the City of *Babylon*, to the end, that it might not remaine in the hands of misbelievers. And being thus resolved, we then marched forwards on the Bridge, which we before had made, being also greatly spur'd on by hearing the terrible confused noyse of those our men, who were as aforesaid entred into *Babylon* in Barques. So hastily Trumpets and Drummes sounding

founding, we passed over the Bridge, and a deepe
 large Ditch, and even under the wals, almost
 hand to hand, beganne a most fierce assault, in
 which time it was the pleasure of God, that the
 River of *Euphrates* upon that side of the City,
 where the Bridge was built, was on the suddaine
 almost quite dried up, and did take its course on
 the other side, the which being by us perceived,
 Commandement was given, that with great
 quantity of Sacks of Flaxe, and Sacks of Wooll,
 Earth, dead bodies of men, and beasts and such
 like (9) Rubbish, throwne into the said dried
 Channell, by multitudes of men in short time, we
 made it plainely equall with the other ground,
 for the space of two miles in length, even under
 the very wals of the City: the most valiant Jani-
 saries and Simeenis, stormed upon the City with
 continuall tempests of Musquet shot, and gave
 not the enemy leave to come in sight, whilst
 those other forces which were brought up
 through the meandrous trench aforesaid, swiftly
 ran with scaling Ladders, each of them being
 then armed with two Pistols, and a short croo-
 ked sword hanging by their sides, called Semi-
 tars, in this sort they attempted to scale the wals,
 and to ascend, but the defendants within, not
 sleeping a whit with hot mixture of Pitch, and
 Tarre, Rozen, Brimstone, and multitude of stones
 overwhelmed us, and with certaine Artillery, so
 monstrous bigge, that in one of their mouthes a
 man might commodiously lie, these being charg-
 ed with chaines, and nayles, bullets and Iron
 barres.

(9) What
 barbarisme
 it is to ac-
 count the
 bodies of
 the decea-
 sed men no
 better than
 Rubbish.

barres, &c. Swept our men away, we on the contrary side, attempting with good Canon, to beat downe their wals to the ground, which at last likewise tooke effect, but this advantage was accompanied with a greater difficulty, for the defendants had fortified within, and built another very strong brick-wall, neer the which they had made a very deepe and large ditch, all covered over with boards, in the manner of a trap doore, or draw-bridge, which they kept levell, untill there had entred into the City about 2000 Janisaries, and perceiving the light horse to enter also, they let fall the trappe doore to our great perill and dammage, for such was the fury of our holy inspired souldiers, to presse forwards the sooner and more effectually to shew their manhood and valour, that the hind most forced the formost to fall downe headlong into the afore-said deepe prepared Ditch, insomuch that in a short time, what with our men, and with our horses, the Ditch was then filled, and levelled with the ground. The defendants saw it, and began againe to distribute their shot and to thunder with the abovesaid widemouth Petards; But we being arrived even under the said wall, and as it were at hand blowes, our multitudes at the last overcame all their oppositions, and forced them to retire to the other side of the City leaving these beattered wals to our discretion, upon which we displayed our Emperours most happy banners, and they likewise on the other side did display those of *Persia*.

Thus

Thus we gained the one half of the City in the space of twelve hours, or thereabouts. The Defendants in this Assault having lost above twenty thousand men, and we on our side 130000, amongst whom the great Vizier was eternized by his glorious death: who, after he had with incredible valour and undaunted courage, that self-same day, cast eighty severall Darts against the Enemy, was at last, by a Musquet shot, smote into the forehead; whose death our Army taking notice of, called thrice, unitedly, upon the Name of G O D *, and did also most humbly recommend his Soul to his Deities acceptance, with fervent and hearty prayers, &c. After this manner we having at last overcome the Defendants, did afterwards rest the Lords and Masters of the one half of the City; whereupon the Camp for that day reposed, and the very next morning, the Emperour sent for his most faithfull *Mustapha Bashaw*, to come unto his presence (who was called *Silixtar*, which is as much to say, Girt-Sword:) he accordingly presenting himself, first caused him to be arrayed with three severall rich Garments, and with his own hands girt his Sword about him, and then assigned to him his Treasury, saying unto him; Take into thy custody my right hand, the Privie Seal, and shew thy self my valiant * Wolf, let me see how thou wilt behave thy self, in guiding of mine Army in the remainder of the victory. The great Bashaw (without the least answer, casting himself down upon the ground) most humbly kissed the Emperours hand, and presently with much haste

* *Nulla gens tam fera, nec nemo hominum est tam Immanis, cujus mentem non imbuat Dei Opinio. Cic. Tus. quest.*
All men know that there is a God, but not how to serve him, Superstition is of a larger growth than Atheisme

* *Corrumpunt rebus Nomina, The Wolf, is Annual Jerox non generosum rapax nunquam et aratum.*

took horse, gallopping amain towards that part of the City which was by us already overcome; where, lighting from his horse, he was received of all the Army with great Triumph. The Almighty God, the recompencer of our true valour, which overcommeth all oppositions, infused into all our Camp unspeakable jollity, prosperity, and supplied us with abundance of all things necessary for life, &c.

*Numerus Tyr-
narius turcis
Sacer itidem &
decimus.*

Now the 30th day * since our first arrivall under the said City, which was Friday, neerly approaching, all the chief Commanders of the Army began to put all things in a readinesse, being resolved on the next morning, to give the last Assault unto the remainder of the City (yet being in the possession of the *Babylonians*, and in which was the Castle *Venlo*) being one half of the whole, well fortified, with about 16000 Defendants; who, seeing how things passed, amounted their Artillery, some part to the left side of the City, and the other part to defend the Walls without, on that side which out-faced the Battery of the great Balhau. Thus being provided, and all things in order, they attended our comming with great Acclamations, loud noises and sounds of warlike Instruments shewing more courage than ever they did before, &c.

But the Reader hath by the way to understand, that before the comming of the Turks under *Babylon*, the Persians had sent away all unprofitable and unserviceable persons (as old Men, Women and Children) unto other retired Cities, and strong holds of *Persia*; there being left for guard of the City,

City, onely 40000 able Garrison Souldiers, over which were four principall Commanders; namely, the first and chiefeft was called *Obet Han*, the second *Mentisen Ebas*, the third *Asmacan*, and the fourth *Sacker*. Now it happened, that the three aforefaid last named Commanders, by certain passages, had some suspition that their chief Generall *Obet Han*, was corrupted by the great Turk, and held private correspondencie with him; whereupon, with an unanimous consent, they imprifoned the same *Obet Han* in a Tomb, but he soon after cleering himself, was again set at liberty.

This night all the aforefaid Commanders called a Councell, wherin, after much conference, being propounded, what medicine was best to cure so desperate a disease.

The opinion of the said *Obet Han* was, to deliver up the remainder of the said City upon any indifferent terms. But the other three chief Captains were so far from consenting thereto, that they plainly told him, If he would not hold out, even unto the last man, all the Persians in the City would rise up against him, and cause him most shamefully and disgracefully to lose his life.

Whereupon he (knowing that they jested not, and fearing so great a storm would insue) at midnight gave a secret sign to our Camp, that he would yeeld, and give himself into the pious hands of our Emperour, which he accordingly did, the great Turk promising him gracious entertainment; * upon which security he feigned to his Countrymen that his desire was, the next morning to be

* A valiant man cannot be a Traytor, but Cowardise & Treason commonly walk hand in hand, and such was *Han*.

the first which would withstand the fury of the Turks first Assault: whereupon, they (no way dreaming of his intention) commended his forwardness, and encouraged him to behave himself valiantly; so betimes the next morning, he issued forth of his hold with 3000 Souldiers, as if it were to withstand us; but in stead thereof, he went straight forwards with the said Souldiers unto the lodging of our great *Vizier*, who with much humanity entertained him, and advised our Emperour of what had hapned; who, hearing the processe, caused the said *Obet Han* to come before his presence, (who, immediatly presenting himself)* our Emperour cloathed him with a plain red Velvet Gown, lined with Zobelins, and a very rich Pendant, which his Highness had worn in the front of his Turbant; and also a Dagger named *Hangiam*; and unto all the other 3000 Souldiers which accompanied him, he gave very great pay. So that those which were Heretikes even unto that * hour, became beleivers of the most happy truth of *Mahomet*. The aforesaid donatives and presents were given unto the aforesaid *Obet Han* because he had alwaies, underhand, kept correspondence with our Emperour, which was (as aforesaid) almost revealed: but the Omnipotent God preserv'd him in safety to the end his honourable actions, by future Writers, might be published in * holy paper to the whole world.

Here the old Rule is crossed, *Amo prodicionem proditorum odi.*

* Must hee needs be a *Musulman*, that is subject to the House of *Ottoman*? *Quis legat hoc, & in eorum non solvitur?*

* It might be *charta Sacra*, and so passe.

After which we heard in the *Persians* fortifications a great tumult and confusion, and in that instant, certain of the Defendants desired a Parley; the

the which being by us perceived, some were sent to know their minds, which being understood, they returned, and opened it to the Emperour and his Councell, who concluded that the following day there should be on both sides a cessation from Armes; and likewise ordered that the following night, at the darke Posterne door of the Castle, all the *Persian* Souldiers upon agreement should issue forth with as much Baggage as they would carry, and keepe their way through the ordinary street towards *Persia*. And to this end order was given, that the Campe of *Silixtar* great Bashaw should make them way, and retire from these Frontiers, but there arose a suspicion, and it was the common bruit amongst our Souldiers, that the *Persians* fled, and that in a tumacious manner, without rendring the least obedience to our army (though perswaded thereunto one while by admonitions, another while by menaces) which this their intolerable obstinacie caused our men to rush all in an Impetuous fury towards those parts, where the *Persians* were, who knowing full well in what desperate case they were (Death threatning them on all sides) prepared themselves for their best defence, which preparation caused a rumour, and the rumour so affrighted the *Turks*, which were lodged in that part of the Citie already won, (fearing some great aid was come from the King of *Persia*, to succour the distressed *Babylonians*) that thereupon they forsook all the holds they had before conquered, and fled; insomuch, that had not the Captaines of the *Ianzaries* assured them of the

truth, and encouraged them immediately to return, (all that was gotten with so great an effusion of guiltless blood) had been all in a trice lost again.

In this bloody Fight was a most horrible slaughter on both sides, and a mortall destruction fell upon all those *Persians* which (as aforesaid) had issued forth, the most part of them were slain (the ground drinking of their Hereticall blood, with the blood of many holy Imperials; insomuch, that but 300. of our enemies escaped death that day) who (being taken Prisoners alive) and said that the faithlesse Promise of our Emperour had deceived them; But wee answered them, that though our Emperour had given them his faith, not to molest them in their passage, yet this his pleasure was not proclaimed through the Camp, therefore we were not bound to observe it: wherupon, presently after they were brought to a place neer the *Dudiglien*, or Tent of the great Vizier, and were all beheaded. This tragedy being seen by the *Persians*, which kept the Castle, made them prepare for their defence, unto whom our Emperour ingaged his faith, and promised them to proclaim it through the whole Campe, according to their own hearts desire; neverthelesse, they remained obstinate: and notwithstanding, that all day long they were perswaded to accept thereof, they would not consent thereto; for which cause there came out a Command, that the next day following, both in the Ditches, and without, a generall assault should be made, which was accordingly performed; and we approaching to the outward Ditch of the Castle,

file, which was a pike long in depth, and another in breadth, which hindred our entrance into a broader green; wee indeavoured with a great quantity of beams and timber to fill up the Ditches, and, as it were, to make a kind of a Bridge, whereby our design might take effect. But whilst we were thus seriously imployed about this work, the defendants from the out wals of the Castle, with their musket shot, and from their Bastions with their Artillery, made great havock of our men; yet neverthelesse, in the space of an houre wee had laid our beams, and made a kind of Bridge, by which our Souldiers thronged over to the aforesaid green, where being come, we found another ditch halfe as deep, and as broad as the other, thorow which passed a River; and whilst some of our men earnestly attended with their musket shot, not giving leave to the defendants once to shew themselves upon the wals of the Castle; others of our renovvned best Souldiers, by their scaling Ladders mounted up the wals, a Mine was sprung, the violence wherof, not only blew up all those who had passed the aforesaid Bridge, but also the very Bridge it self, and not only so, but as it hapned, this Mine fired another Mine, which was under the second ditch and wall, which unsuspectedly taking fire, blew up many of the defendants who vvere on the out wals, and the stones of the said two Mines, also greatly damnified all those of our Camp, which were in the three quarter-conquered-Citie, and as many as were neer the runto; being one of the most horrible, and dreadfull sights which hath been seen by any mortal,

tall, since the Creation. This miserable accident being over, those of our men which were left alive, took quiet possession of the doors of the Castle first, and afterward, by plain force of the Castle it self, there remained in it alive only 300. *Persians*, and those unarm'd, and without any thing left wherewith to defend themselves (save that each of them had a short crooked sword by their sides, called *Simytars*) their powder and all their materials for defence, being spent, stood upon their guard and fought so desperately, that in the terrible conflict, many of our Iust Imperials lost their lives: But at last our multitudes overcame them, and put them all to the sword. Thus after the above said manner, the great destroy'd *Babylon* became wholly ours. But as the valour expressed by our Souldiers, is beyond beliefe, so was also the courage of the defendants, which will adde untous an eternall fame, so strong a Fortresse being never heretofore taken by force, neither ever any Souldiers more obedient to their Superiours than ours were; neither ever any Emperour, King, or Potentate from the Creation, so liberall in gifts, as this our God of the Earth was.

I (thanks be to God) remain yet alive, but wounded by a musket shot in the thigh, when wee became Masters of the Castle door, and thus wounded, I wrote this relation unto you, being untill this present day, in the behalfe, and by direction and order from our terrestiall God, daily visited by *Selistar* Bashaw, whereby, notwithstanding the wound, greatly molesteth me, yet I have comfort,
and

and heartily rejoyce, that my body is marked for the holy faiths sake, and I shall not too much emulate, the felicity of our dead: since that the pious God knew well the ambition I had to dye in the service of my Emperour, vvho so often shewvs such evident signes of his affection tovvards me, as I my selfe could neither expect or desire; vvherefore my longing is to meet vvith an opportunity, vvhereby I may give a testimony, that, after God, he is my soule. As for the rest, there remaine yet alive unto me foure horses and three servants(vvhom God blesse and send them good fortune) that they may deserve their stipends, and leave fame to their children. As for the victuals for our Campe (by the Providence of God) vve found great store in the City, and also by the diligence of our Emperour, vve have great abundance of all things, making continuall feasts vvith roaring of Artillery and praying to God for the prosperity and happy successe of our Almighty Emperour, as you also ought by the Emperours command, to give notice to all his subjects that they observe the like.

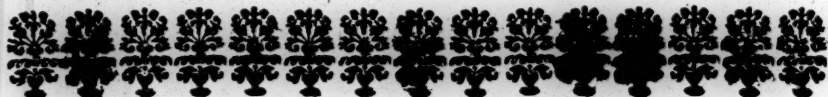
In this City vve found 145 Canons for battery, the vvch carried shot of fifty and seventy pound vveight; 92 mortar pieces, in the vvch any man might stand most conveniently, but little or no vvealth at all, because all before our comming vvvas carryed avway from thence, nothing remaining but vvhat vvvas necessary to maintaine the life of the abovesaid 40000 Soldiers, there left in guard of the City. There vv

(22)

also sufficient victuals found to maintaine 40000
soules for the space of two yeeres : We found
also 200 Runtars of Powder, and the City
vvholly destroy'd, vvvhich vve are about to re-
fortifie. If any other matter of moment shall
happen, I vvill exactly informe you. Thus pray-
ing that vvhatsoever you desire may be fulfilled,
in as much as it aymeth to the prosperity of our
Emperour and his Crovvne, Farevvell.

From the Campe.

F I N I S.



*The Copy of a Letter sent to a private Merchant
of London, from Ragouza*

T*His foresaid Relation is here of all held for a
certaine truth, this State having sent the selfe
same news to the Pope and Vice-Roy of Naples, and
to many other Christian Princes, and hath also beene
confirmed to bee true, by a 100 severall Curriers;
wherefore be pleased to make much thereof, assuring
you if you knew how I laboured to get out the Cappy of
the*

the Originall, out of the private News booke of this State, kept in the hands of their chief Secretary, you would questionlesse esteeme it so much the more: My paines in translating it (though not small) yet far lesse than the procuring of the Originall; by which above said discription, I take notice of 3 points, viz. 1, of the proud blasphemy of the great Turk, in intituling himself the right hand of God, Arbiter of the Vniverse, and God on Earth. 2, Of their foolish superstitions and idle opinions, to beleerve that all those their Souldiers that dye in fight must necessarily thereby gaine Heauen. 3, Of their bestiall precipitated resolution and vaine glory of the great Turk, that so hee may gaine and accomplish his ambitious desires, regards not to see before his face the Bucherlike slaughter of multitudes of his men, and bravest Souldiers, &c.

Read this Relation to as many as your discretion thinkes fit, but I desire you to let no Coppy bee taken thereof, that it may not on the suddaine become common: And thus I humbly rest

Your obedient servant

to command,

William Holloway.

